

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COM-02 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 TAR-01 L-02

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R 061700Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2614

INFO USDA/WASHDC

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 9620

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BE

SUBJECT: EC PROPOSAL FOR MINIMUM IMPORT PRICES ON PROCESSED
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (MIP)

REF: STATE 264017

1. EMBASSY APPROACHED APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL IN FONMIN
(APPROPRIATE AGMIN MAN NOT AVAILABLE) AND ON DECEMBER 6
REITERATED U.S. OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED MIPS FOR PROCESSED
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL (JANNSEN)
TOOK CAREFUL NOTE BUT REMARKED THAT, AT ANY RATE, HE DOUBTED
A DECISION ON THESE MIPS WOULD BE REACHED AT THE EC
AGMINISTERS MEETING ON DECEMBER 9-10. HE THOUGHT THIS TRUE
DESPITE THE FACT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE URGING A
SETTLEMENT OF THIS QUESTION SO THEY COULD MOVE AHEAD ON A
MEDITERRANEAN POLICY AGREEMENT.

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2. IN GIVING BACKGROUND TO THE MEETING ON DECEMBER 9-10, JANNSEN NOTED THAT THREE ITEMS ON PROCESSED FRUIT/VEGETABLE MIPS WILL BE DISCUSSED: (A) THE FRENCH AND ITALIAN EFFORT TO TAKE A VERY STRICT INTERPRETATION OF THE LIBERALIZATION PRINCIPLE AGREED IN THE COMPROMISE OF JUNE, 1973 (ITYXYI; (B) A GERMAN PROPOSAL TO PUT A CEILING ON THE SUBSIDY TO BE GRANTED TO CANNED PINEAPPLE FROM MARTINIQUE AND; (C) THE WORDING OF THE "ESCAPE CLAUSE" FOR THE MIPS ON THESE PRODUCTS.

3. ON THE COMMISSION'S LIST OF "SENSITIVE" PRODUCTS, JANNSEN PUT TOMATO PUREE, TOMATOES WITHOUT SKINS, TOMATO JUICE, CONCENTRATED LEMON JUICE, CANNED PEACHES, AND ORANGE JUICE (CONCENTRATED OR NOT). IN ADDITION, THE FRENCH ARE SEEKING, ACCORDING TO JANNSEN, TO RETAIN "NATIONAL" QUANTITATIVE CONTROLS ON CANNED APRICOTS, PEARS AND PLUMS. THE ITALIANS WANT ALL EC COUNTRIES TO RETAIN "NATIONAL" QUANTITATIVE CONTROLS ON ALL CITRUS JUICES FOR FROM THREE TO FIVE MORE YEARS. JANNSEN WARNED THAT IF THE FRENCH AND ITALIANS SUCCEED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO RETAIN THESE NATIONAL CONTROLS, BRITAIN WILL PROBABLY DEMAND A SIMILAR PRIVILEGE FOR CANNED STRAWBERRIES, RASPBERRIES AND BLACK CURRENTS WHILE THE GERMANS WILL DEMAND EQUAL TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN POTATO PRODUCTS. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FRUIT, POLICIES, VEGETABLES, IMPORT CONTROLS, IMPORT PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRUSSE09620
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740355-0326
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741256/aaaabvkz.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 264017
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <15-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC PROPOSAL FOR MINIMUM IMPORT PRICES ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (MIP)
TAGS: ETRD, BE, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005